

Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-12

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CHARGE TO OPIC

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R 261316Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162519

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS:EFIN

SUBJECT: TAW COMPANIES - VISIT OF ZAMBIAN SOLICITOR GENERAL

1. ON JULY 23, 1974, AT THEIR REQUEST, OPIC REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH THE ZAMBIAN SOLICITOR GENERAL AND AMBASSADOR TO DISCUSS PENDING PROBLEMS BETWEEN GRZ AND TAW. THE ZAMGIAN REPRESENTATIVES INDICATED THEY WOULD LIKE TO SETTLE THE MATTER OUTSIDE COURT OR ARBITRATION, AND ASKED WHAT OPIC MIGHT DO TO HELP PROMOTE A SETTLEMENT. AFTER THES DISCUSSIONS AND AFTER CHECKING WITH TOM WOOD OF TAW (NO TAW REPRESENTATIVE WERE PRESENT), IT APPEARED TO OPIC THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SETTLEMENT SHOULD CONTINUE, AND THAT SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOT FAR ENOUGH ALONGTO OFFER USEFUL EXERCISE OF OPIC "GOOD OFFICES" TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES OF THE PARTIES

2. ON JULY 24, 1974 OPIC DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING LETTER SIGNED BY OPIC PRESIDENT MARSHALL T. MAYS (DATED JULY 24) TO THE ZAMBIAN SOLICITOR GENERAL AND AMBASSADOR AT THE ZAMBIAN EMBASSY: "REPRESENTATIVES OF OPIC WERE PLEASED TO MEET WITH YOU ON YOUR REQUEST JULY 23, 1974 TO DISCUSS THE PENDING PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA AND THE TAW COMPANIES. I BELIEVE A USEFUL
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RAPPORT WAS ESTABLISHED DURING THIS MEETING WHICH I HOPE WILL BE

CONTINUED BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ON THIS AND OTHER MATTERS OF
MUTUAL INTEREST.

BASED ON THIS MEETING AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE TAW COMPANIES, I BELIEVE THAT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE
CONTINUED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA AND THE TAW COMPANIES
TO REACH A SETTLEMENT OF THIS MATTER OUTSIDE OF LEGAL OR ARBITRAL
PROCEEDINGS, IF POSSIBLE. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TAW COMPANIES
INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CONTINUING THESE
NEGOTIATIONS. ALTHOUGH NEGOTIATIONS OF THESE MATERS WILL OF
COURSE BE BETWEEN THE PARTIES, I HOPE THAT A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION
CAN BE FOUND TO ALL MATTERS WHICH WE UNDERSTAND ARE UNDER DISCUSSION,
INCLUDING THE 62 TRUCKS NOW IN ZAMBIA, THE 300 TRUCKS AND
400 SENI-TRAILERS, AND THE EXPENSES AND PROFITS OF THE PARTIES. WE
HOPE TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE PROGRESS OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS."

3. WE WILL ADVISE FUTHER AFTER FURTHER DICUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES

OF TAW AND ITS CREDITORS. INGERSOLL

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